

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EUR-25 IO-14 ACDA-19 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 DRC-01 /184 W

----- 112773

R 281130Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2500

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CASABLANCA 0839

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, MO, XF

SUBJECT: MAHJOUB BEN SEDDIK ON MIDDLE EAST

1. SUMMARY. UMT SEC GEN MAHJOUB BEN SEDDIK SAYS HE MAY BE TRAVELING TO CAIRO NEXT WEEK FOR ICATU CONFERENCE. NEVER A FRIEND OF US, HE IS NOW EXTREMELY BITTER AT ROLE OF USG AND US TRADE UNIONS IN LATEST MIDEAST CONFLICT BUT IS OPPOSED TO ANY BOYCOTT AIMED AT US GOODS OR FIRMS. UMT-WFTU CONTACTS HAVE INCREASED NOTICEABLY IN RECENT WEEKS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN CONVERSATION NOVEMBER 27, UNION MAROCAINE DU TRAVAIL (UMT) SEC GEN MAHJOUB BEN SEDDIK TOLD LABOFF HE MAY TRAVEL "PERHAPS TO CAIRO" FIRST WEEK DECEMBER FOR ICATU MEETING. HE WAS RELUCTANT DIVULGE DETAILS AGENDA OR REASON FOR MEETING.

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3. BEN SEDDIK, WHOSE ANGER OVER EGYPTIAN "CAPITULATION"

EXCEEDED ONLY BY A REKINDLED AND UNALTERABLE WRATH OVER
US MIDEAST "INTERVENTION" IS IN FIERY MOOD THESE DAYS.
YET HE FIRMLY AND SPECIFICALLY RULES OUT ANY TRADE UNION
BOYCOTT OF US GOODS OR FIRMS AS "INEFFECTIVE AND FUTILE,"
AND WILL PROBABLY OPPOSE ANY BOYCOTT THAT LIBYANS OR OTHERS
MIGHT PROPOSE.

4. AS RESULT US TRADE UNION MOVEMENT'S WIDE PUBLIC SUPPORT
FOR ISRAEL DURING WAR, BEN SEDDIK SEEMS MORE ALIENATED THAN
EVER FROM US LABOR. NEVERTHELESS, UMT STILL CORDIALLY
RECEIVING INDIVIDUAL US TRADE UNIONISTS WHO MAY PASS THROUGH.

5. RECENT WEEKS HAVE SEEN NOTICEABLE INCREASE IN UMT-WFTU
CONTACTS, ALTHOUGH SEVERAL MERELY RESULT STOPOVERS IN
MOROCCO OF VARIOUS DELEGATIONS TRAVELING TO OR FROM CUBAN
TRADE UNION CONGRESS. LAST WEEK UMT TOOK UNUSUAL STEP
OF PERMITTING SOVIET ECONOMIST YURI POPOV TO LECTURE IN
UMT FACILITIES IN RABAT AND CASABLANCA UNDER AUSPICES
"SOVIET-MOROCCAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION" AND SOVIET CULTURAL
CENTER IN RABAT.
BRUBECK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
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